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Making a presentation at GHS

# What will the new Gravelbourg school look like? Designing a school for the 21st Century

Member of the

By Paul Boisvert

**GRAVELBOURG** -- The second Public Consultation Session regarding the new school was held for the community was held on Wednesday, September 25, at the Gravelbourg High School.

The architectural firm and members of the School Division had met earlier with the students of GHS and



James Youck

with the students of GHS and similar to the exercise held with community members September 9, collected their fears, hopes and desires. Those were listed on the wall for all to see.

James Youck, Principal Architect for P3A, led the discussion and asked the participants to gather into three work groups. Each was provided with an aerial plan of the existing school.

What was the purpose of the exercise?

"What we're doing tonight is a design sharette. The focus of tonight's session is to look at best practice for site design. What we're looking at and what I mentioned in the presentation is sort of looking over the site usage at a 10,000-foot level. How should the site be best utilized for site access, for parking, for buses, for building access and then where would major building compo-

nents (be). So we've sort of taken the addition and the renovation and distilled it down into about a dozen blocks of space and what we're going to do is move them around the site to figure out what makes the most sense," said Youck. "The groups that we've created out of the attendees -ideally we've got parents, teachers and community members at each of the tables. So you've got a different



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# Mozambique delegation visits Trailtech

By Paul Boisvert GRAVELBOURG - Dan Kossick community relations coordinator for the Training for Health Renewal, Saskatchewan / Mozambique Partnership (THRP) of the University of Saskatchewan was in Gravelbourg on Monday, September 23, to visit the manufacturing facility of Trailtech. Accompanying Kossick were Antonio Tanda, Mozambique director, Horacio Mandewo, director of the Massinga training center located in Mozambique and Denise Kouri Canadian Program Director of THRP. The delegation is part of an international health initiative linking institutions and communities in Mozambique and institutions and communities in Canada. It's a co-operative partnership between the University of Saskatchewan health science colleges and the Ministry of Health in Mozambique. It's also part of a five-year CIDA funded project. Continued page 2 **SEE: TRAILTECH** 



Walter Mikulsky

perspective from everybody. Then our people are acting as facilitators at each table," he said.

Youck said his team would not direct the design process. They will take the information and review it later when they begin to design the new school.

How important was the exercise in getting students to provide their hopes, fears and desires?

"It's very, very important to meet with the students. Absolutely. It's important to instill ownership by the community in the facility. Be it in renovation or be it new. **Continued page 6 SEE: NEW SCHOOL**  L - R: Gerry Geoffrion, Horacio Mandewo & Antonio Tanda



### Terry Fox National School Day

**GRAVELBOURG -** Students of GES and GHS participated in the Terry Fox National School Day on Thursday, September 26.

Turn to page 12 for more photos and story

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Member of the

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**Food for** Thought Agriculturally speaking by C.M. (Red) Williams

### Now or never

When it comes to protection of the native prairie grasslands it is" now or never". You get "one kick at the can" and then it is wishful thinking of those that regret not having made the right decisions. It is necessary to put the remaining native grasslands into protection in perpetuity now because it is the last chance.

We have statements from Saskatchewan Agriculture that ranchers are good stewards and on average that is true, but there will be some who will not always voluntarily meet that high standard and the chain is broken forever.

It is important that the provincial government puts a protection codicil on all the lands it releases to individuals, but more important the PFRA pastures must be put into permanent preserve. The failure of the federal government is no excuse for the provincial government to not pick up the responsibility.

It is not often that I find myself on side with those that " are against everything", but the simple fact that there is no second chance to get it right makes protection of the remaining natural grasslands and the associated wild life an easy issue to support.

Of course there are established ranchers that want to get their hands on some of these parcels, although there are others that need access to managed pastures. The pasture management committees are not always perfect in their practices so some overview is desirable. It all proves that ranchers, large or small are not always perfect stewards of the public's land. It is hoped that this small missive and any responses that readers may provide will stiffen the back of Saskatchewan Agriculture in order to act for all citizens.

#### **ERRORS & OMISSIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### **TRAILTECH** Cont'd from page 1

"The CIDA project itself is around health training workers," said health Denise Kouri. "Their trip here (to Trailtech) is an exploratory trip to see what else we can do and what else can help communities in Mozambique. It (transportation needs) is related to health in the sense that it is a determinate of health to have a good economy and transport food," said Kouri.

Part of their work is building the social and economic capacity of communities - addressing these indicators of good health. This has involved a lot of things ranging from chicken production units to community gardens to flour mill/grinders.

Why Trailtech? Dan Kossick has known

# Letters & opinions ...

## **Shame on Harper**

This week the United States and more than 90 other countries signed the UN Arms Trade Treaty aimed at curbing the transfer of conventional weapons that could promote acts of genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes. But Stephen Harper's government did not sign, overly anxious the treaty might somehow impinge on recreational users in Canada engaged in sport shooting and hunting.

This is the same Stephen Harper who last week dismissed Iranian assertions that their country was not seeking nuclear weapons and who declared 'We should carefully monitor deeds far more than words'. Stephen Harper seems to be very good at principled words when it comes to lecturing others, but less great at setting a good example when even the slightest interests of his

political base is affected. Larry Kazdan Vancouver, B.C.

Letters to the Editor We welcome all letters to the editor on local and national topics. Praise a group or individual or tell us about anything you feel is important. Letters must be signed and provide a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to refuse material we deem libelous and in bad taste. Editor

Keith Brown from his early years of building trailers and he said the growth and success of the business was something that was of great interest for his delegation.

"We can see how the technology here works. The question will be whether it can be adapted to part of the community health development," said Kossick.

Antonio Tanda, director of the program in Mozambique, explained how the country is vast and grows many different crops that are unique in each of those regions. The challenge is getting products from one part of the country to the other. Existing models of transportation

are limited on what they can carry on a flat and sandy land. Tanda said a company like Trailtech demonstrates how effective and versatile trailers could be. Just the introduction of this kind of technology could revolutionize the economy for his country. Better trade means improved economies. For instance the coast provides fish that could be hauled into the interior where the people there can ship their peanuts to those on the coast.

are usually only 4X4s that

**Continued page 3 SEE: TRAILTECH** 

# **Cartoon of the week**



"HA! You think that's loud? Just wait 'til our choir practice tonight ... !"

Still a long way from a



families means growth and in turn means a few

Editor Paul Boisvert 12 grades there. What improve-

ments could you recommend?

WHY DOES



From the editor's desk... Want to share your views about something that's happening in the community?

Write us a letter or send an email. Plans for the new Gravmean all the dif-

elbourg School are well underway.

Last Wednesday, Sept 25, over 40 people, mostly teachers and support staff with some parents came up with concepts on how the school might look like.





final decision.

Where was the business community? Where were many of the residents of Gravelbourg?

This is big! First new school in the south since the 1960s. It will reflect what our community could become in the next 20 or 30 years. Everyone should be involved.

An ordinary school will be just another box with rooms. A new UNIOUE and MODERN school could mean all the difference in attracting young families to establish themselves in Gravelbourg and area. It could

small business operators might keep their doors open. So where is the business community?

No one can be complacent. NOW is the time to get involved and get a school that will be a showcase for Gravelbourg and a place that enhances learning skills for kids. Imagine a school that kids love to attend! A school that teachers feel helps them in their task as educators. If you aren't sure about the new open wall concept then you better speak out.

Seniors and families that have their children

In the past we never had a say in the design. Now we do so take advantage. Be there or be square.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION Turn to page 9 for puzzle Sponsored by Dale & Liza's Farm & Auto

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#### TRAILTECH Cont'd from page 2

"There are long distances between communities. And the railway isn't very developed. (One railway running from one side to the other). And the



Dan Kossick

sea system is working more for international containers bringing huge loads for South Africa," said Tanda.

"You try to introduce the notion of putting a trailer to use then you have a community with money (trading goods) and would be able to sur-

vive," he said. What did he learn during the tour of Trailtech? He said how to develop a better suspension system. How to properly designed a trailer that can haul bigger loads and pulled behind a 4X4.

"I saw so many types of trailers that they could suit very easily to our reality and they could improve the amount of things to be carried," he said.

President of Trailtech, Gerry Geoffrion, said this was a first for Trailtech. They have made a commitment to continue helping them in any capacity.

"They have a plan," said Geffrion who said they asked the right questions and were keen to learn how trailers were engineered.

Geoffrion said they talked about infrastructure. He remembers traveling to countries in South America that didn't have the infrastructure to support mechanization of the economy. He said Mozambique doesn't have



Denise Kour

that problem. With South Africa as a neighbour they have the infrastructure available to support new technology.

"They have the infrastructure there and they have the infrastructure in South Africa which is very near by. So they have access to steel, axles and rims and tires and stuff like that," he said.

Top Photo L - R: Antonio Tanda, Horacio Mandewo. Gerry Geoffrion & Dan Kossick.

Photo at right: Denise Kouri, Gerry Geoffrion & Antonio Tanda.









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